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nexion is made with all parts of Russia) to Baku, *via* Tikhoretskaya, Kavkazkaya, Armavir, Mineralniyavodi, Beslan, Grozni, Petrovsk, and Derbent. From Tikhoretskaya to Mineralniyavodi the track is double.

There are four principal branches: one runs from Tikhoretskaya to Tsaritsin on the Volga, 333 miles; another from Tikhoretskaya to Ekaterinodar, and thence as a double line to Novorossiisk, 170 miles in all; a third from Kavkazkaya to Ekaterinodar, 85 miles; and a fourth from Kavkazkaya to Stavropol, 93 miles. There are also short branches from Mineralniyavodi to Kislovodsk and other watering-places, from Kotlyarevskaya to Nalchik, and from Beslan to Vladikavkaz.

The Vladikavkaz Railway is considered to be one of the most profitable and best-managed private lines in Russia. The company's original concession expired in 1911, but was renewed for fifteen years, and thereupon various improvements and plans for new branches and terminal facilities were undertaken.

The receipts in 1912 amounted to £5,845,100, and the expenses to £3,137,400, leaving a net profit of £2,707,700, less the sum of £348,400, which the State received in accordance with the rate fixed in the company's statutes. In 1910, the latest year for which such figures are available, the railway carried about 8,000,000 tons of goods.

(ii) The *Transcaucasian Railway* runs from Batum to Baku, a distance of 563 miles, *via* Samtredi, Rion, Sharopan, Michailovo, Tiflis, and Elisavetopol. From Akstafa to Elisavetopol and from Adji-Kabul to Baku the track is double. The railway also owns an 8-in. pipe line from Baku to Batum, which is capable of delivering 1,600,000 tons of oil per annum.

There are six principal branches: from Samtredi to Poti (41 miles); from Rion, *via* Kutais, to Tkvibuli (33 miles), serving the coal-mines at the latter place; from Sharopan to Sachkeri (narrow gauge, 33 miles), serving the Chiaturi manganese mines; from Michailovo, *via* Borzhom, to Bakuriani; from Tiflis, *via* Alexandropol and Kars, to Sarykamish (226 miles), with

3: Anonymous U-4 (no date) 1920 RH1 Caucasia RH1

135 Kedabek copper mines. *Graphite* and *mercury* have
316 recently been found. *Pyrites* is worked for sulphur in Elisavetopol and Tiflis, and sulphur is also obtained at Bechenakh and Gunur, in Kutais.

(5) Mineral Oils

(*a*) *Sources of Supply*

135 Mineral oil, the great source of Caucasian wealth,
315 is found chiefly in the Governments of Baku, Terek, and Kuban, although small quantities occur elsewhere. Hitherto by far the richest oil-producing area has been that of Baku, comprising the Apsheron Peninsula, Cheleken Island and Holy Island, and the outlying district of Benagadi. In the Apsheron Peninsula lie the older oil-fields: the five belts of Balachani, Sabunchi, Romani, Bibi-Ebyat, and Zabrat, and the comparatively newly-discovered oil district of Surachani, about 12 miles away. Second to those of Baku in importance and apparently of increasing productivity are the Grozni fields in Terek Province. The Maikop oil-fields, in Kuban Province, have since 1912 yielded unsatisfactorily.

In 1908 the Caucasian oil-fields supplied about 22 per cent. of the world's total production, but the proportion has sunk very considerably since then. General figures of the output from 1910 to 1916 are given in Table II of the Appendix (p. 93).

382 The products of the mineral oil include illuminating oils, engine and cylinder oils, solar oils, goudron (asphalt), benzene, residuum (*ostotki*), and crude oil (untreated). Of these, *ostotki* was for years treated as waste, but it is now by far the largest product, having superseded kerosene, which bears a heavy duty, while *ostotki* is untaxed; it has a large sale as fuel for factories, railways, and steamships. Balachani oil is the heaviest in quality; *ostotki* is not so readily formed from the Bibi-Ebyat and Grozni products. Cheleken Island and Telav produce ozokerite (or paraffin wax). The lowest percentage of benzene

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is yielded by Balachani. Grozni oil is particularly adapted for the manufacture of first grade petrol, great quantities of which have accumulated there during the war.

The following particulars may be given of the chief oil-fields:

(i) *The Baku Fields.*—The first well was bored at Baku in 1871. Since that year the oil-fields have been developed one after another, with capital supplied partly by the Swedish firm of Nobel Brothers, and partly by the French Rothschilds and others. The Balachani–Sabunchi–Romani field occupies about 2,640 acres on a plateau a few miles from the Caspian Sea.[1] At Sabunchi eight very productive belts are known. At Romani there was a natural depression into which ran the water and refuse from adjoining properties, forming a lake of 432 acres; this was drained in 1904 by the Moscow Caucasian Co., by means of a subterranean channel, and an outlet into the Caspian Sea was also provided, which serves as a permanent drain for the whole oil-field. Bibi-Ebyat contains five rich belts, but its productivity is declining. Puta, a continuation of the Bibi-Ebyat fields, has been very little developed. Zabrat has been prospected by a French company, but the yield is only spasmodic.

Between 1908 and 1911 there was a marked decrease in production in all but one of the old Baku oil-fields, as seen by the following comparative table:

	Balachani.	*Sabunchi.*	*Romani.*	*Bibi-Ebyat.*	*Total.*
	Metric tons.	Metric tons.	Metric tons.	Metric tons.	Metric tons.
1908	1,124,784	3,181,936	1,222,304	1,914,128	7,443,152
1911 [2]	755,200	2,131,200	1,019,200	1,225,600	5,131,200

After 1911, in spite of new borings, the production, though increased, did not reach the 1908 level, whilst after 1914 the Surachani output is reckoned in with the old Baku output, and the separate yield of the original oil-fields cannot therefore be calculated. There

[1] On this plateau 120,000,000 gallons of oil were thrown up in 1873 before it was understood how to conserve it.

[2] Ten months only.

315 are, however, many localities left in the Apsheron district to be tested when the exhaustion becomes more pronounced.

Surachani, the new Baku oil-field, gives a supply of natural gas, which, through the enterprise of the Baku Naphtha Co., is now conducted in 8 and 10 inch pipes to the various oil-fields, where it is used for boiler-heating. Some wells, about 1,200 ft. deep, yield about 5,000,000 cubic ft. of gas daily. Surachani wells also produce white oil, a medicinal product, of which the output is about 48 tons daily. Crude oil, which lies beneath the natural gas, has also been exploited with good results.

In 1902, 24,000 workers were employed at Baku ; by 1916 this number had doubled. The average number of producing wells in the Baku district in 1914 was 2,894, the output per well before exhaustion being from 40,000 to 50,000 tons.

Holy Island produces oil which is shipped by Nobel Brothers in its crude state to the Volga for fuel. The output in 1914 was 94,000 tons.

Cheleken Island produces a heavy petroleum, from which ozokerite is extracted. In 1912 the yield was 209,000 tons, but since that year it has greatly declined. The oil is sent abroad to be refined.

Benagadi produces a very heavy oil, pumped through pipe lines to the railway. The Benagadi output was steadily increasing in 1914. Digga and Sarai localities, near Benagadi, are both petroliferous, and in 1914 were about to be exploited by Baku companies.

The Baku oil-fields seem to have escaped damage and pillage during the military events of 1918.

(ii) *The Grozni Fields* consist of a belt of petroliferous land, 1,800 ft. wide and about 7 miles long. The oil-bearing strata usually lie 1,500 to 1,800 ft. below the surface, but sometimes even deeper, and the deposits are impregnated with lime. The Grozni oil often issues in great spouts, but the life of the wells is usually short. At Mamakai the oil reaches the surface, and has been obtained from hand-dug wells for fifty years past.

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The European Petrol Co., a British concern, was founded in 1893 to exploit the Grozni oil, and another British company, the Kazbek Syndicate, struck a prolific fountain in 1903. The Anglo-Terek Co. found oil on the western field in 1907 at 2,500 ft. deep, and the parallel ridge of Sundja is expected to prove rich. The area occupied by wells in 1913 was 2,497 acres, in the hands of twelve firms. Several new fields were proved in 1913 in the neighbouring localities of Belik and Chermoff, and 200,000 claims have been staked; the whole country round Grozni for a radius of about 30 miles has been covered with oil claims. The principal new oil districts are Sleptsovskaya, Voznesenskaya, Broguni, Kakhanovskaya, Isstissu, and Chir-Urt nearer Petrovsk. Pipes from both eastern and western fields take the oil to Grozni station, and in 1914 pipes were completed leading to Petrovsk, on the Caspian Sea.

In 1917 the Grozni oil-fields employed 9,000 workmen. The average number of producing wells in that year was 398.

The Grozni oil-fields suffered much more than those of Baku or Maikop in 1918. Almost all the oil-wells and plant have been destroyed or burnt, so that production will be impossible for some years to come.

(iii) *The Maikop Fields* have been scientifically exploited since 1908 only, chiefly by British capital. There are four districts, Shirvansky, Apsheronsky, Nephtianoi, and Hadizhensky, and the wells number about 200. Before the completion of the new Armavir–Tuapse railway, the oil went either to Novorossiisk or Petrovsk. There are two pipe lines, one from Maikop to Tuapse, the other from Shirvansky to Ekaterinodar for transport on the Ekaterinodar–Novorossiisk branch railway; both pipes belong to the Maikop Pipe Line and Transport Co., Ltd., a British concern. Nearly all the Maikop oil has been consumed in Russia. It is refined at Ekaterinodar. The output has been very disappointing, and has steadily declined since 1912.

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315 (iv) *Other Sources.*—Berekei and Kaikent in Daghestan 47 have been exploited, but in both the oil is damaged by the inflow of sulphurous water. Berekei was closed in 1907; Kaikent, in the hands of the Anglo-Russian Petrol Co., only yields spasmodically.

Kaluga, in Kuban Province, showed oil in 1907, but work only began in 1914. The Vladikavkaz Railway Company hold 15 plots of promising petroliferous land there, and intend to use the oil for the railway. The prospects are good.

In Tiflis Government two localities have been exploited, one east of Tiflis and the other at Telav. In 1904 the Southern Oil-Fields of Russia Company was working there, and in 1914 the Tiflis locality was again being explored.

315 In 1914 prospecting was going on at many other places, where there are unmistakable indications of large quantities of oil, notably at Guria, where a thick black oil was found, and at Shemakha, Jevat, and Lenkoran. Jingy (or Djeng), near Shemakha, forms the extremity of a huge oil-field with a reputed area of 70,000 square miles, lying chiefly in the Ural Province. Nobel Brothers have already sunk wells there with good results; in October 1915, 225 plots of petroliferous ground near Borz and Jingy were declared open for new claims.

Oil is also obtained from numerous wells on small plots worked by peasants, especially in the Grozni and Maikop districts.

(*b*) *Methods of Working*

At Baku the Russian system of boring is still in use, the American, although generally superior, being declared to be unsuccessful on account of the frequency of landslips and fractured tubing. Another view, however, is that the continued use at Baku of a comparatively wasteful system has been a factor contributing to the successful competition of American oil in the world market, in spite of the fact that at Baku a few square miles produce as much oil as several

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thousands of square miles in America, and that a single Baku oil fountain has actually yielded as much in one day as 25,000 wells in America. The American system has been adopted at Grozni and Maikop. Manila ropes have been very generally replaced by wire ropes. Pumps cannot be used at Baku to raise the oil, and it is therefore baled by steam or electric power; air-lifts have recently been found successful. In default of fresh water, steam at Baku has to be obtained from sea-water, which causes rapid destruction of the boilers.

Oil is conveyed to the Black Town (Baku) refineries in pipe lines, of which in 1906 there were 39 in private ownership besides the State pipe lines. Large firms had their own pumping stations in addition to those provided for general use. Fountain oil was pumped direct to the stations and measured there. Some of the Bibi-Ebyat oil goes by barge.

From Baku the oil has four means of transit: by rail to Batum or Poti; by pipe line (kerosene) to Batum; by rail to Petrovsk; and by tank-steamer to Astrakhan and thence up the Volga. The last route, by which the Volga factories are supplied, is only open from April to October.

Electric power was steadily replacing steam power on the oil-fields in 1914. The Spies Petroleum Co. at Grozni run their works almost wholly by it. There are generating stations at Sabunchi, belonging to Nobel Brothers; at Zabrat, belonging to the Société de la Caspienne et de la Mer Noire; at White Town (1,200 horse-power); and at Baieloff (4,500 horse-power). At Sabunchi and Zabrat the Surachani gas is used to generate electricity.

(6) Manufactures

Ciscaucasia and Transcaucasia have each their own characteristic industries, which, in the former case, are those proper to a region predominantly agricultural, and in the latter are dependent on the output of the oil-fields.

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(*b*) *Organizations to promote Trade and Commerce*

It is only within recent years that any efforts towards the organization of the trade and industry of Caucasia have been made, but before the outbreak of war a good deal had already been done in that direction. The first chamber of commerce in the country was established at Batum in 1910. The number of trade associations increased rapidly, especially in Ciscaucasia, where the Cossacks take kindly to co-operation, and many credit societies were formed.

The chief organizations confined to particular industries were the Association of Baku Naphtha Producers, the Manganese Producers' Association, and the Caucasian Cotton Growers' Association. The first of these levied a tax of 5*d.* a tin on oil products, which it expended on hospitals, &c. It had a statistical bureau, published journals, and held an annual conference which was attended by delegates from the committees of the various oil interests and by a representative of the Minister of Agriculture. The Manganese Producers' Association also levied a tax, which was devoted to improvements in plant, &c. It brought pressure to bear on the State to improve railway facilities and rolling-stock, and was anxious to secure the connexion of the mines with the railway, but did not succeed in this. One of the objects of the Caucasian Cotton Growers' Association was to increase the cultivation of cotton in Caucasia and Russian Central Asia, so that the Central Russian mills could be fed entirely with home-grown supplies. Extensive irrigation was among its schemes.

(*c*) *Foreign Interests*

The largest field for the investment of foreign capital in Caucasia is of course the oil industry. This being a matter of international finance, it is impossible to gauge with precision the share which any particular nation has therein; but it was stated in 1919 by an expert of the *Mining Journal* that the controlling

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power was the Deutsche Bank. Of the firms engaged in extracting oil, the Swedish house of Nobel Brothers has the largest interests, its production being double that of any other single firm. French companies financed by the Rothschilds also figure largely in the Baku fields. The chief of these is the Société de la Caspienne et de la Mer Noire, which in 1912 combined with others, among them the British concern known as the Schibaeff Company, to form the Royal Dutch Shell Combine, which is said to be responsible for 11·8 per cent. of the total Baku output. British interests in the Baku fields are comparatively small, but at Grozni and Maikop they are predominant. During the Maikop boom sixty-six companies were formed in London, but of these only five are still working. In 1913 a British company, the Guria Petroleum Corporation, Ltd., acquired a lease of some 70 square miles of land between Batum and Poti. Estimates of the total value of British capital invested in Russian oil-fields vary from £10,000,000 to £17,000,000. Armenian interests are rapidly increasing, especially in the new oil districts round Grozni.

Copper is mainly mined with the aid of British, French, and American capital. The manganese industry, on the other hand, has hitherto been for the most part in native hands, though in recent years British, Dutch, German, and French have begun to participate in it.

Franco-Jewish financiers supplied the capital for the construction of the Transcaucasian railway, which was taken over by the State in 1906. In connexion with the railway expansion schemes of more recent date the Anglo-Russian Trust Company, having a capital of £1,000,000 and debenture stock amounting to £500,000, was formed to place the shares of the Armavir–Tuapse, the Black Sea–Kuban, and the Kakhetian railways on the London market, principal and interest in each case being unconditionally guaranteed by the Russian Government. The same company also invested in the municipal 5 per cent. gold bonds of the city of Baku.

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British capital has played an important part in various other public enterprises. 315 471

Certain minor commercial undertakings, such as pottery-making at Tiflis, wine-growing in Terek, and timber exploitation in the Rion district, are in Italian hands.

(*d*) *Methods of Economic Penetration*

For some years past the Germans have adopted their usual business methods with success in the Caucasus.[1] They appointed agents who spoke Russian fluently, and who were invested with full powers to act for the firms they represented. A single firm frequently offered widely varying lines of goods, of which the agents could produce samples. All catalogues and price-lists were printed with Russian quotations in the Russian currency, and were therefore much more popular than those of British firms, which were invariably presented in English only, with prices quoted in English money. 439

The nearest British agencies were at Rostov-on-Don. British firms were unwilling to give the credit expected by Russian merchants, and appeared indifferent to local prejudices and preferences in regard to the nature of goods to be supplied. They were, therefore, at a disadvantage in competing with the more enterprising German. In certain lines of goods, such as ready-made clothes, haberdashery, boots and shoes, drugs, all kinds of fancy goods and stationery, Germany and Austria-Hungary held the market; and they were beginning to encroach on the steel, agricultural machinery, engine, and motor trades, once almost exclusively British.

(2) Trade with Russia

Most of the manufactured goods required by Caucasia are supplied by Russia, the chief exceptions being machinery and other metal goods; produce of various

[1] In 1916 a German-Georgian society was established in order to cultivate economic intercourse between the two countries.

TABLE II.—OUTPUT OF MINERAL OIL, 1910-16[1]

Oil-fields.	1910. *Metric tons.*	1911. *Metric tons.*	1912. *Metric tons.*	1913. *Metric tons.*	1914. *Metric tons.*	1915. *Metric tons.*	1916. *Metric tons.*
Old Baku . . .	8,016,000	5,131,200	6,758,054	6,290,323	5,435,484	7,264,000	7,712,000
New Baku . . .	160,000	661,289	709,677	758,064	1,389,774		
Maikop . . .	16,000	128,000	145,161	96,774	—	128,000	48,000
Grozni . . .	1,184,000	1,200,000	1,048,389	1,129,032	1,593,549	1,408,000	1,632,000
Hand-dug wells . .	—	161,090	—	—	209,677	—	—
Total . . .	9,376,000	7,281,579	8,661,281	8,274,193	8,628,484	8,800,000	9,392,000

[1] The Maikop and other productions of 1914 and various other productions in 1912 and 1913 are classified under 'Other Sources', of which an unknown proportion is of Transcaspian origin, so that the totals for 1912, 1913, and 1914 are really higher than the figures here given.

*133 there are not only harmless mud volcanoes but also lava-ejecting volcanoes, and regions where gases, mineral water, and even mineral oil, come forth from the soil. In some places it is sufficient to strike a match to have flames burst from the ground. Some [315] gas wells are found south of Baku, within the bay; the majority of these are found in the northern part of Apsheron, along the coast. The gas and mineral oil sources have been industrially exploited for a long time; the naphtha sources on Apsheron were the first, those near the village of Balakhany from the 1870s on. The gas was not put to use until much later. Therefore, the city of Baku was for a long time the only Russian or Soviet city where gas, and in this case natural gas, was used for cooking and even heating.

Off the east coast of Apsheron, the Holy Island Sviatol (now Artëm) having the older name of Paralaghai, is situated. This island follows in its main form the folding lines of Apsheron; these were probably caused by lateral pressure. It is of volcanic origin, along with others which form a small archipelago southwest of Baku at a distance up to 20 km. along the coast.

The island of Kumani (long. 49° 35' E., lat. 39° 35' N.) emerged from the sea in 1864, and another one, Lozy, had three eruptions

*133 during the year 1876; at that time, rocks were thrown as far as Cape Alyat [Alet] on lat. 40° N. on the continent. In this region, the water is often disturbed by submarine volcanic activity, just as near the peninsula of Cheleken, on the opposite shore, south-southwest of Krasnovodsk; and now and then
• [315] the sea is polluted by naphtha. In the northern part of this region, closer to Baku, near the town of Bibi Eybat, a number of oil derricks stand in the sea. At a distance of 45 km. due east of the Shakhova Kosa (in Turkish, Cape Sarsy-Burun), the southernmost tip of Apsheron, a number of shallow naphtha-ejecting areas, the so-called naphtha banks, are situated under water. These are at present the most important oil wells, known as the Neftyanye Kamni.

Mineral Springs

312 As a rule, volcanic areas are rich in sources of mineral water. One of the areas most abundant in mineral springs of various compositions is found in the Besh-Tau ("Five Mountains") area, north-northeast of the Elbrus massif. The mineral sources in this area are undoubtedly a consequence of the volcanic activity in this region and therefore probably connected with the origin of the famous Lakkoliths, with their liparitic cones. In the region of Mt. Besh-Tau, an almost

496 steppes to the north and northeast of Stavropol. These lines must sooner or later be linked with the Kikhoretskaia-Stalingrad line at Salsk, from where there is a connection with Rostov, and perhaps eventually with the connecting link between Astrakhan and Kizlyar.

In the mountains proper, railroad construction meets certain difficulties or even limitation which prevent the extension of the single subsidiary lines of the mountain areas proper. This is particularly evident with regard to the side-lines of the Trans-Caucasian railroad, all along the southern slopes of the Caucasus.

315 The railroad system of the Caucasus, which has proven insufficient to handle with any efficiency the traffic demands made by the industrial centers, is somewhat compensated for by the oil pipelines. There is the double one across Trans-Caucasia, from Baku, via Tiflis and the Surami pass, to Batumi on the Black Sea; and the North Caucasian pipe line which connects the Groznyi and Maikop petroleum areas with the ports of Makhach-kala on the Caspian Sea and Tuapse on the Black Sea, after which it goes via Rostov directly to the Ukrainian heavy industries. These pipelines relieve the demands upon the railroads to a considerable extent.

497 The above-mentioned inadequacy of the railroad system is typical not only of the Caucasus but of the entire Soviet Union. This

536 5 Bagrimanov
Chechen actor of tragic roles 20. c.

BE I 61:535

665 3 Baibakov, A. S
Member of presidium CC CP Azerb. SSR, 21. s'ezd, 1956

Bak. Rab. 1/26/56

646 3 Baibakov, Nikolai Konstantinovich
665 Deputy to Sov. Soiuz VS SSSR
315 (4. s'ezd, 1954) Born in Sabunchi (near Baku) 1911- oil engineer. Was member of CC CP SSSR (before 1956) Deputy to VS SSSR 2. sozyv. Member of presidium CC CP Azerb. SSR, 21. s'ezd, 1956

Bak. Rab. 3/18/54, 3/2/54, 1/26/56

646 3 Bairamov, Musa Khuda Kerim ogly
665 Deputy to Sov. Soiuz VS SSSR (4. s'ezd, 1954) Member of CC CP Azerb. SSR.

Bak. Rab. 3/18/54

7: Columbia U. S-4,5 1956 RHl Caucasia
RHl

533
3 Tagi-Zade, Niiazi Zul'fugarovich
see
Niiazi (pseud.) 1/1

646
3 Tagiev, Imran Abdulla ogly
Deputy to Sov. Nats. VS SSSR (4. sozyv, 1954)

Bak. Rab. 3/19/54

646
315 3 Tairova, Taira Akper ogly
Deputy to Sov. Nats. VS SSSR (4. sozyv, 1954). Born in 1913- oil expert; 1942- director of neftano nauchn. issled. inst. in Kuibyshev; subsequently head of various oil enterprises in Azerb. Member of Bakinskii gorodskii komitet. Deputy to Bakinskii gorod. sovet. Deputy VS Azerb. SSR. Member of CC CP Azerb. SSR, 21. s'ezd, 1956

Bak. Rab. 3/19/54, 2/25/54, 1/26/56

533
1 Taktakishvili, Otar Vasil'evich (Tiflis in 1924-) Deputy to Sov. Nats. VS SSSR (4. s'ezd, 1954) composer; wrote state hymn of Georgia for which he was awarded Stalin prize 2. degree; member of CP Gruz. SSR.

Bak. Rab. 3/19/54
Zar. Vost. 2/13/54, 3/11/54

[Cat. 116, p. 778 -- Analyst]

7: Columbia U. S-4, 5 1956 RH1 Caucasia RH1

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a-1, 5 Caucasian Industry in Czarist Russia as of 1913

x : Centers of fuel industry
△ : Mines
□ : Centers of metallurgy
○ : Machinery and metal-working plants
♀ : Silicate and porcelain works
● : Chemical industry centers
▼ : Textile industry centers
▽ : Food industry centers
v : Centers of various industries

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852a

311 433 located around Novorossiysk. The wine industry is also centered around Novorossiysk. The only sub-unit of the kray, the Adyge AO, is highly industrialized. The main industry is the oil industry. Of smaller importance are metallurgy and machinery, and the lumbering, food, and tobacco industries.

Rostov Oblast: Since the detachment from the oblast of the coal-mining areas, its industry consists mostly of various machinery plants concentrated at Rostov, Taganrog, and Novocherkassk.

The distribution of the various industries in the Caucasus is as follows:

315 382 Oilfields, centers of oil industry: The oilfields and the oil industry arising from them are the main assets of the Caucasian economy. Of the five oilfields, two are in the South, and three in the North Caucasus. The greatest is the Baku oilfield. The importance of this oilfield is however declining; its output, which constituted 83% of the Russian output in 1913, had fallen to 48 in 1950. Due to the 85 years of exploitation, the wells are very deep and mostly on the bottom of the Caspian Sea. The output is refined mostly in the cracking plants of Baku or sent through two pipelines to Batumi. The second important oilfield of the Caucasus is located around Groznyy. The product of this oilfield furnishes mostly high-octane aviation gasoline. The Groznyy product is either processed in the cracking plants of Groznyy and Malgobek, or piped to the cracking plants of Tuapse, or to Trudovaya in the Donets Basin. The Makhachkala products, however, are refined mostly in Makhachkala itself. The fourth center

315 382 of Caucasian oil production, the oilfields around Maykop, are richer than those of Makhachkala, though they have not yet fully recovered from the German destruction. The main center of these fields is Maykop. The Maykop product is refined in Maykop, or sent by pipes to the Krasnodar, Tuapse, or Trudovaya refineries. The fifth oilfield is the Shirako oilfield (in eastern Georgia), whose exploitation began only recently. The Shiraki product is processed in the Mirzaani cracking plants. The oil of the Caucasian fields is sometimes used as fuel for thermo-electric plants.

315 Natural gas centers: Though gas occurs around the oilfields at various places, large-scale industrial exploitation is confined to the methane gas wells of Dagestanskie Ognie where it is used for fuel in the glassworks.

316 Coal mines: This very important fuel, if one disregards the mines located in the northern Rostov Oblast, is scarce in the Caucasus. Only Georgia has really important coal mines, of which the Tkibuli and Tkvarcheli mines produce coking coal, whereas the Akhaltsikhe mines produce brown coal. In the North Caucasus, the Rostov coal mines are a continuation of the Donets Basin coal-producing area; they contribute 10% of its output and contain roughly 20% of the Donets Basin reserves. Caucasian coal is very often used as fuel for thermo-electric plants, the most important of which is the Artemovskiy Plant (90,000kw).

377 Water resources and hydro-electric plants: The Caucasus is extremely rich in water resources. Half of the water resources of

7: Columbia U. S-4, 5 1956 RHl Caucasia RHl

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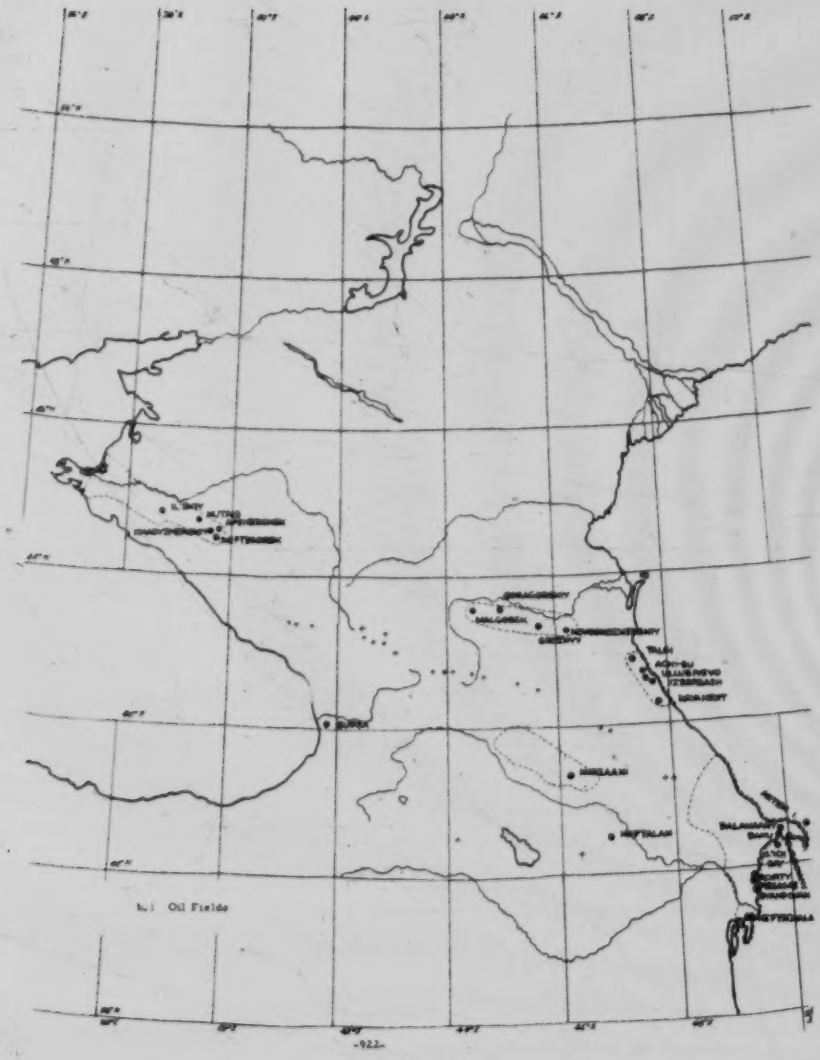

315

b. 3 Pipelines

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b. 4 Natural Gas Sources

23: Shabad N-4 (no date) 1951 R1 Soviet Union R1
Caucasia RH1

Sal steppes, where because of the dry conditions only sheep and horses can be successfully reared.

The rich agricultural production of the Kuban' lowlands is processed at a number of centers, chiefly Krasnodar, Armavir, Kropotkin, and Labinsk. Of great importance are oil presses, canneries, flour mills, and tobacco factories.

The Black Sea littoral is characterized by a humid, maritime climate, luxuriant natural vegetation, mineral springs, and a picturesque location between the mountains and the sea. These factors combine to make the area provide garden crops and health resorts. Because of the limited land area under cultivation and the presence of resorts (Sochi, Matsesta, and Anapa), the growing of vegetables, fruits, vineyards, and dairy farming receive priority. Tobacco, southern hemp, oil-bearing plants are also cultivated. Flower gardens and decorative plants are common. Wine is made chiefly at Anapa, at Abrau-Dyurso near Novorossiysk, and at Solntsedar [gift of the sun], just west of Gelendzhik. Gelendzhik itself is an important dairying center. Tea is processed at Dagomys, northwest of Sochi.

The Kuban'-Black Sea petroleum region (near Maykop) is centered in Neftegorsk [oil mountain] and Apsheronsk (named for the oil-rich Apsheron peninsula). Near by are the oil towns of Khadyzhenskiy and recently-opened Kutais. Another field has been developed at Il'skiy, southwest of Krasnodar. Prior to the Second World War this region was one of the most rapidly developing petroleum areas of the USSR; it had a tenfold increase in production under the Soviet regime. Destruction caused by the war has, however, been responsible for a considerable setback in output.

The basic transportation routes are the Rostov-Baku and Novorossiysk-Stalingrad railroads, their junction being at Tikhoretsk, a major rail center with extensive yards and shops. Short branch lines serve most sections of the region. During the Second World War the opening of the Black Sea littoral railroad between Adler and Sukhumi (Georgian SSR) established another vital link across the Greater Caucasus to the Transcaucasian republics. Coastal steamers serve the Black Sea shore, stopping at Sochi, Tuapse, and Novorossiysk, the most important ports.

Krasnodar, formerly called Yekaterinodar, lies on the right bank of the Kuban', in the middle of the fertile black-earth agricultural area. Once the capital of the Kuban' Cossacks, it has oil-refining and metalworking industries. It is a major food-processing and rail center, having

Ca 771 [870] during the summer holidays all that the Soviet authorities wished them to disregard. A number of Ingush party and Communist Youth League members, instead of working against the influence of religion, used themselves to go to the mosques to pray.[7]

Ca 457 191 The difficulties existing between the Soviet authorities and the Chechens and Ingush were not exclusively due to the Bolshevik failure to understand the importance of the religious factor in the life of the mountaineers. There were also extraordinary difficulties of a technical nature, due to the fact that the directives of the central administration were issued in the Russian language and therefore did not reach the Chechen-Ingush masses. Being unable fully to understand the orders received, the local Soviet organs either could not carry them out, or falsified the decisions of the party and of the administration.[8]

GROZNY – THE OIL CITY

Ca 178 It was the tremendous dead weight of the predominantly Russian capital of Chechenia that prevented the implementation of any genuine Chechen autonomy and finally spelled the doom of the Chechen people. The actual liquidation of the Chechens would probably not have occurred had not the largest town in their homeland become an oil city, and indeed, one of the most important oil centres of the U.S.S.R.

Ca 515 S.U. 345 This oil city had developed out of the little fortress of Grozny. Although Grozny oilfields had been discovered as early as 1833, they were hardly exploited at all in the nineteenth century. In 1912, however, they already supplied 11·5 per cent of the entire Russian oil. Between 1913 and 1917 this figure had risen to 16·7 per cent, and in the following four years to nearly 25 per cent. By 1937 the proportion of Grozny oil to total Russian oil production had fallen to 9·25 per cent, but in terms of absolute figures this output represented an increase of 234 per cent, compared to that before the First World War. The development of Grozny as an oil centre made for an increase of the population on an 'American scale'. In 1890 the place had no more than 6,000 inhabitants, against 34,067 in 1913, 97,095 in 1926 and 172,468 in 1939. It need hardly be added that the Chechens and Ingush, peoples consisting of shepherds and peasants, could not contribute anything worth mentioning to the rise of the town which was styled, almost ironically, 'Capital of the Chechen-Ingush A.S.S.R.'. Among the oilworkers of Grozny there were probably at no time more than one-tenth of 'natives', and until 1936 there were but 9·7 per cent.

Ca 361 162

Ca 177 S.U. 563 Unlike so many cities in the Soviet Union, Grozny never changed its name under the Soviet régime, despite the imperialistic history connected with it. As a matter of fact, it was the Soviet oil city of Grozny which spelled the doom of the Chechens and not the little fortress which

1 [Cf. category 116, pp. 186-188 R1 Sov. Union 21: Kolarz - Analyst]
2 [Cf. category 116, p. 186, R1 188 Sov. Union 21: Kolarz - Analyst]